

# SKOWHEGAN LAWYERS

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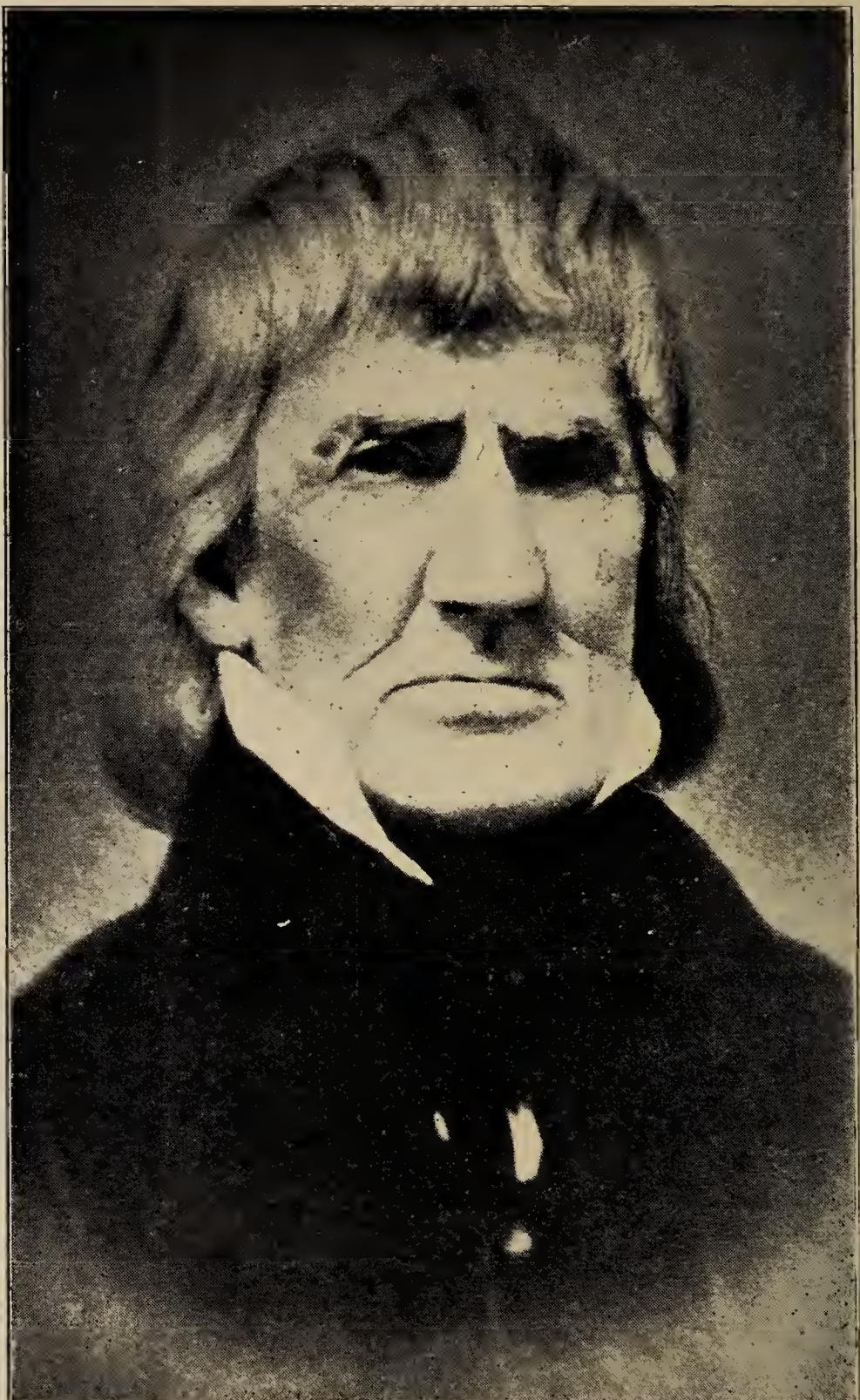
SKOWHEGAN LAWYERS, 1803-1927











JUDAH McCLELLAN  
First lawyer to practice in Skowhegan, Maine

# SKOWHEGAN LAWYERS

1803-1927

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Compiled by

E. F. DANFORTH

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Hinckley, Maine

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*This little book is dedicated  
to my wife  
Florence Waugh Danforth  
whose encouragement has made  
this work a pleasure*

## Preface

Since the settlement of the territory now called Skowhegan fifty-seven lawyers have spent some part of their lives practicing law in this town. As a rule these men have taken high rank in their profession and have performed their duties conscientiously,—with credit to themselves and to the satisfaction of their clients. Nearly all have held offices of trust performing the duties thereof in a worthy manner. Seven have served in Congress; sixteen have served in the State Legislature; nearly one fourth have served as Attorneys for the State in their County; twelve and one half per cent have held judicial positions; about eighteen per cent have held Federal offices; nearly one half have held county offices and nearly all have shown their interest in education by serving on various educational boards.

To the end that some record of these men may be preserved the following facts have been compiled.

E. F. DANFORTH.

July 15, 1927.



## Historical

March 1, 1809, the northern part of Kennebec County was incorporated under the name of Somerset County and Norridgewock was made the shire town thereof and continued as such till March 1, 1872.

On February 15, 1872, there was approved by Governor Perham "An act to change the place of holding the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Somerset, and to change the shire town of Somerset County".

Section one of this act provides that the several terms of the Supreme Judicial Court now required to be holden in Norridgewock, shall after the first day of March, 1872, be holden in Skowhegan.

Section two of this act provides that within five years from the passage of this act the County Commissioners, or a majority of them are authorized, empowered and required to cause a court house to be erected at Skowhegan, suitable for the accommodation of the courts and offices of said County and to procure a loan of money for that purpose and assess taxes for the payment of the same.

Section three provides that the previous sections of this act shall be void and of no effect unless the town of Skowhegan, or its citizens shall on or before the first day of March, in that year provide suitable room and other accommodations for said court and officers to the acceptance of a majority of the county

commissioners and shall execute and deliver to them a good and sufficient lease or other instrument to secure the use thereof to said county during said five years if the same shall be occupied so long for the purposes specified in this act, and shall also convey or secure the conveyance in like manner of a suitable site for county buildings in said Skowhegan.

By terms of this act there were but fourteen days within which suitable offices and court room were to be provided by the town of Skowhegan or its citizens and these should be to the acceptance of a majority of the county commissioners. The citizens of the town of Skowhegan proceeded with diligence to change the two stores in the Williams building at the south corner of Elm and Madison streets into offices, to build therein two brick vaults for the accommodation of the records and to transform Coburn Hall into a court room. The time was short and when the first day of March arrived it was claimed by the attorneys representing those who desired to have Norridgewock remain the shire town that the vaults prepared were not in suitable condition to receive and safely preserve the records and that the law had not been complied with, but the county commissioners decided otherwise. By the act above referred to these questions were left with a majority of the county commissioners, whose decision was final. The Honorable Stephen D. Lindsey and John H. Webster, Esq., asked for a writ of prohibition against the county commissioners and the Honorables Joseph Baker of Augusta and David D. Steward appeared for the county

commissioners. The petition was brought in the name of Sylvester J. Walton, who was the attorney for the state for the County of Somerset. The March Term of the Supreme Judicial Court was held on the third Tuesday of March and the Honorable Edward Kent of Bangor presided. The first matter heard was this petition.

The county commissioners through their counsel filed a motion to dismiss, a motion to remove the temporary prohibition and an answer and after a hearing the petition was dismissed by Mr. Justice Kent to which exceptions were filed and allowed.

Immediately after Mr. Justice Kent rendered his decision, he adjourned court to convene at Skowhegan on the fourth day of the March Term, 1872.

The exceptions were heard by the Law Court at which John H. Webster, Esq., argued for the petitioners and Hon. David D. Stewart for the respondents. The Court sustained the ruling of Mr. Justice Kent thereby deciding that Skowhegan was the lawful shire town of the County of Somerset.

The shire town question divided the county politically for the next few years and those opposed to the removal nominated candidates at the next election and nearly all, if not all, of them were elected. At this juncture Ex-Governor Coburn, magnanimously offered to give a sufficient amount of money to build the county a Court House at Skowhegan; the offer was accepted and in 1873 the very commodious Court House which now stands at the corner of Court and High Streets was built under the supervision of John Russell, S. B. Walton and E. G.

Pratt, county commissioners; C. F. Douglas was the architect and Foster & Dutton the builders.

The business of the county outgrew this house and in 1904 the Court House was enlarged and remodelled under the supervision of John Metcalf, M. L. Merrill and L. C. Williams, county commissioners. John Calvin Stevens was architect and R. J. Noyes, builder.

The lot upon which the Court House was built was purchased of the Rev. Samuel Bickford with an addition purchased of L. L. Morrison on the east side. When the house was remodelled another piece of land was purchased on the east side from the Morrison lot.

The old jail at Norridgewock was used till 1895 when the house and lot on the opposite corner of Court Street, being the south west corner of Court and High Streets was bought of Clara J. Vosmus and the present jail was built under the supervision of Albert Leavitt, George H. Clark and H. C. Webber, county commissioners.

## Skowhegan Lawyers

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ETHEL S. (WALTON) ABBOTT

Daughter of Sylvester J. and Alma B. (Clark) Walton was born in Skowhegan December 31, 1878, and was educated in the Skowhegan schools, graduating from the High School in 1898, from Lassell Seminary in 1899, from the shorthand department of Burdette Business College in 1902 and from the Boston University Law School in 1906. Was admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the September Term, 1906, being the first woman admitted to the Bar in this County. She immediately began the practice of law in the office of Walton & Walton in Skowhegan, but the sickness and death of her mother and the long illness of her father obliged her to give much of her time to home duties. August thirty-first, 1914, she married William J. Abbott. In September, 1920, soon after the death of her father she removed to Winnett, Montana, where she is engaged in the practice of her profession.

### EBENEZER ALLEN

Born in Vermont and came to Skowhegan about 1834; admitted to the Bar in Somerset County in June, 1834. At one time he was a partner in the practice of law of James T. Leavitt in Skowhegan and they had an office on Madison Street near the corner of Russell Street. About 1840 he removed to Texas where he became Secretary of State under Jones' administration; Attorney General under both Lamar's and Huston's second administration, and filled the same office in the State, under Bell's administration. He was one of the earliest advocates of Texas railroads; and was one of the projectors and early managers of the Texas Central. He died in Virginia in 1863. He was then in the Confederate service; engaged in the torpedo business.

### OLIVER R. BACHELLOR

Born in Fayette, Maine, June 1, 1821. Educated at Farmington Academy and Kents Hill Seminary. Read law in the office of John S. Cutler in Farmington. Admitted to the Bar in Franklin County, March, 1850. He soon removed to Solon, Maine, where he practiced law for twenty-five years. Was Register of Probate in 1856 and Representative to the Legislature in 1865. He came to Skowhegan in October, 1876 and here continued the practice of law. When, in 1901, the Skowhegan Municipal Court was established he was appointed Judge, which office he held to the time of his death, which occurred October 17, 1908. He was married to Mrs. Paulina Drew Freeman of Norridgewock on July 6, 1857.

### TIMOTHY BOUTELLE BARRETT

Son of Joseph and Olive Rand Barrett, was born in Canaan, Maine, on February 27, 1835; attended school in Canaan and took a preparatory course at Waterville Institute and a college course at Union College; was admitted to the Somerset County Bar at the December Term, 1861; practiced law in his native town till near the close of his life, when he came to Skowhegan where he continued his practice. He represented his district in the Legislature of 1895; served the town of Canaan in various town affairs and as its postmaster. He was engaged in his profession for fifty-five years and died in Skowhegan on November 21, 1916.

### JAMES BELL

Born in Chester, Mass., February 1, 1805. One of a family of six sons and six daughters. Educated at Amherst Academy and entered Amherst College in August, 1828, from which he was graduated with honors in 1832. Was teacher of languages at Wesleyan Seminary, Kents Hill from March, 1833 to 1835; read law in the office of Judge Edward Fuller in Readfield in 1835 and in the office of the Hon. J. W. Bradbury in Augusta in 1836. In December, 1836, was admitted to the Bar and removed to Monson, Maine where he practiced till he came to Skowhegan in 1857. In March, 1837, he married Miss Charlotte O., eldest daughter of Gen. James R. Bachelder of Readfield. Was postmaster of Monson for several years; State's Attorney for Piscataquis County and in 1851 was elected to the State Senate from that County; was one of the Commissioners to revise the Statutes of this State in 1855 and 1856; was Judge of Probate of Piscataquis County when he removed to Skowhegan; was a member of the Governor's Council in 1863, and was once elected Treasurer of Somerset County.

He died at Skowhegan, December 8, 1881.

### SAMUEL AUGUSTUS BICKFORD

Son of the Rev. Samuel and Sarah Bickford, was born in Skowhegan, October 21, 1823, and was graduated from Bowdoin College in 1847; admitted to the Bar in 1851 and practiced for a time in Anson, Maine. He spent the years 1852 to 1867 in Australia and New Zealand, returning to Skowhegan in 1867. In 1872 he began the practice of law in Skowhegan, continuing for a few years. Was Sheriff of his county 1881 to 1885. From 1886 to 1896 he was engaged in the insurance business in Skowhegan under the firm name of Dinsmore & Bickford.

He died September 17, 1896.

### NEWELL WASHBURN BRAINERD

Born August 20, 1860, Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Son of Fredus Oldridge and Maria (Washburn) Brainerd; married January 15, 1887 Mrs. Flora T. (Brown) Lawrence of Fairfield, daughter of George Otis and Caroline H. (Fox) Brown and widow of Charles P. Lawrence; educated in common schools and China Academy, China, Maine, and Oak Grove Seminary, Vassalboro, Maine; principal of China Academy in 1881; read law in office of E. F. Webb; admitted to bar in Kennebec County, March 15, 1886; commenced practice of law at Fairfield, May, 1886; appointed clerk of courts for Somerset County, November 24, 1890, by Governor Edwin C. Burleigh to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Luther H. Webb. He moved to Skowhegan and commenced duties of his office December 4, 1890. He continued as clerk of courts until his death, November 9, 1900.

### HORATIO BRIDGE

Born in Augusta, Maine, April 8, 1806, the son of James and Hannah (North) Bridge; graduated from Bowdoin College in the famous class of 1825; studied law and began practice at Augusta but in 1828 moved to Milburn, now Skowhegan, and remained one year, when he returned to Augusta and again resumed practice there, and for a time was in partnership with the Honorable James W. Bradbury, one of his college classmates.

He was one of the four who prosecuted the dam enterprise in Augusta and became involved thereby. Was appointed purser in the navy in 1838 and continued in active duty on shipboard till 1845. During this time he performed a three years' cruise on the African coast and embodied his observations upon that coast in "The Journal of an African Cruiser", a book published under the editorship of his friend and classmate at Bowdoin, Nathaniel Hawthorne. In 1845 he was appointed chief of the naval bureau of provisions and clothing, which office he held until he was retired in 1868 "by operation of law on account of age."

In 1846 he married Charlotte Marshall of Boston.  
He died March 18, 1893.

### JOSEPH DARLING BROWN

Born in Buxton, Maine, January 12, 1823, the son of Samuel and Ruth (Darling) Brown. His parents moved from Buxton to Guilford, Maine and were among the early settlers of that town. Joseph and his brother William M. E. Brown were educated at the Foxcroft Academy generally walking from their home—a distance of four miles—each day. He taught school for a time after graduating from the Academy meanwhile pursuing the study of French and Latin.

He was admitted to the Piscataquis County Bar June 25, 1846 and entered upon the practice of law in Foxcroft, Maine. In 1851-52-53 he was a member of the board of County Commissioners for the County of Piscataquis and for a time was postmaster of Foxcroft. In 1858 he formed a co-partnership with his brother, William M. E. Brown in Skowhegan, Maine, where they continued in the practice of law till 1868, when he went to Belvedere in the State of Illinois where he practiced law till his return to Maine about 1878. For four years he was Judge of the Dover, Maine, Municipal Court. For five years he was one of the editors of the *Piscataquis Observer*.

He married Eunice Davis of Foxcroft about 1860.  
He died in Dover, January 31, 1898.

## WILLIAM MACCLELLAN ENSLEY BROWN

Son of Samuel and Ruth (Darling) Brown was born at Buxton, Maine, in July, 1819. Educated in the schools of his home town and Foxcroft Academy, walking to and from school each day with his brother Joseph D., a distance of four miles from their farm house in Guilford; studied law with James Bell of Monson; admitted to the Bar in Piscataquis County in 1840; practiced law fifteen years in Solon; was a member of the Legislature in 1857; a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1856; was U. S. Collector of Internal Revenue for the District of Maine in 1865; was the Democratic candidate for Representative to Congress in 1859 but was defeated by Stephen Coburn; practiced law in this town the last thirty-five years of his life. His first wife's name was Lucy White and after her death he married Sophie A. Grover of Skowhegan.

He died in Skowhegan, April 17, 1895.

### AMOS K. BUTLER

Son of Benjamin and Susan H. (Badger) Butler, was born in Avon, Maine, May 11, 1867. Educated in the public schools and at Farmington Normal School; Superintendent of Schools in Skowhegan, 1891-1894; studied law in the office of Heath & Tuell and Heath & Andrews in Augusta, Maine; was admitted to the Bar in Kennebec County at the October Term of court 1896 and came to Skowhegan, entering the practice of law, April 26, 1897. He married May E. Crosby August 3, 1898. During the World War was a member of the Somerset County Exemption Board from June, 1918 to the close of the war.

### ERNEST C. BUTLER

Son of Benjamin and Susan H. (Badger) Butler, was born in Avon, Maine, March 17, 1872; educated in the public schools of Avon, of Phillips and the Farmington Normal School, from which he was graduated in 1892; graduated from the Law School of the University of Maine in the class of 1901 with the degree of LL.B., admitted to the Bar in 1901, since which he has practiced his profession in Skowhegan with his brother Amos K. Butler under the firm name of Butler & Butler, with a break of about one year during which he was with the Y. M. C. A. overseas service, in the World War.

### ALONZO COBURN

Born in Bloomfield, December 6, 1812, the son of Eleazer and Mary (Weston) Coburn; educated at Waterville and China Academies and was graduated from Waterville College in 1841 and from Harvard Law School in 1845; formed a law partnership with his brother Stephen Coburn under the name of A & S. Coburn with an office in Skowhegan but soon left the practice of law. Married Vine W. Osgood January 30, 1877. He died November 19, 1882.

### STEPHEN COBURN

Son of Eleazer and Mary (Weston) Coburn, was born in Bloomfield, Maine, November 11, 1817; educated at Waterville and China Academies and entered Waterville (now Colby) College and was graduated in 1839 second in his class. For a year he taught in Tarboro, N. C., and returning to Maine became principal of Bloomfield Academy for four years, 1840-1844; admitted to the Bar in 1845 and opened an office in Skowhegan with his brother, Alonzo Coburn, this partnership was not of long duration. Mr. Coburn then became associated with Henry A. Wyman and this connection continued till the death of Mr. Wyman in 1867.

In 1852 Mr. Coburn was attorney for the State in Somerset County. In 1860 he was elected Representative to the 36th Congress to fill the unexpired term of Israel Washburn, who had been elected Governor of Maine. He was Postmaster of Skowhegan, 1868-1877; a member of the State Board of Education from Somerset County, 1848-1849.

Married Miss Helen S. Miller June 29, 1853.

He died July 4, 1882.

### EDWARD P. COFFIN

Son of James F. and Caroline (Burbank) Coffin, was born in Fairfield, Maine, June 22, 1854. Educated in the schools of his native town and at Wesleyan University from which he was graduated in 1879 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts with honors; received the degree of Master of Arts from the same institution in 1882. He studied law with Folsom & Merrill in Skowhegan, 1879-1880, at the Boston University School of Law, 1880-1881 and again in Skowhegan in 1881-1882; was in a law office in Detroit, Michigan, 1882-1883, admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the September Term of Court, 1884 and practiced his profession in Skowhegan, 1884 to 1897, a part of the time as member of the firm of Merrill & Coffin. He married Sarah Adelene Lord of Steep Falls, Maine, June 6, 1893. Served the town of Skowhegan on its School Board for several years. Died November 17, 1897.

### EDWARD F. DANFORTH

Son of Franklin and Eliza A. (Rogers) Danforth, was born in Norridgewock, Maine, September 1, 1856; educated at Eaton School; was graduated at University of Maine, 1877 receiving the degree of B.S.; attended the Boston University Law School from which he was graduated, with the degree of LL.B., in 1879. Admitted to the Kennebec County Bar at the March Term, 1879; came to Skowhegan, October 13, 1879, where he has since practiced his profession. Married Hattie A. Cowan of Vassalboro, Maine, October 26, 1881, who died June 16, 1912; on July 21, 1914, he married Miss Florence Waugh of Newcomerstown, Ohio. He was a member of the Skowhegan School Board for six years. Attorney for the State in Somerset County, 1886-1891; Judge of Probate for the County of Somerset, 1896-1905; member of the Maine House of Representatives, 1907; Director of the Second National Bank of Skowhegan, 1900-1911; Vice-President of Skowhegan Trust Company, 1911-; Treasurer and Attorney of the Somerset Loan and Building Association, 1889 to present time; Trustee Bloomfield Academy and Skowhegan Free Public Library and during the World War was member of the Somerset County Exemption Board, 1917-1918.

### NATHANIEL DEERING

Son of James and Almira (Ilsley) Deering, was born in Portland, Maine, June 25, 1791 and was prepared for college at Phillips Exeter; was graduated from Harvard with honors in 1810; studied law and was admitted to the Bar in 1815. He practiced his profession in Skowhegan, coming here in 1822; returned to Portland in 1836 and soon relinquished law for literature and won a high standing in the early circle of American writers; was for a time editor of the "Statesman", published in the interests of Henry Clay; in 1830 he published "Carrabasset", a tragedy in five acts founded on the massacre of Father Rasle; later followed "Clairvoyants" from his pen; in 1851 appeared his tragedy "Bozzaris". Married Anna M. Holwell, October 4, 1824. He died March 25, 1881.

### HENRY E. DUMMER

Son of Jeremiah and Mehitabel Dummer, was born in Hallowell, April 9, 1808; graduated from Bowdoin College in 1827 and attended Harvard Law School, 1829-1830. Came to Skowhegan in 1830 and remained about one year; went to Springfield, Ill., where he practiced law in 1832-1837; in Beardstown, Ill., 1837-1864; in Jacksonville, Ill., 1864-1878; was State Senator in 1860 and U. S. Register in Bankruptcy. He died in Mackinac, Mich., August 12, 1878.

### ALBERT G. EMERY

Son of Tilly and Celia Tobey (Hinds), was born July 14, 1838. Married Nancy Potter of Fairfield, June 11, 1859. Was in Washington, D. C., from 1863 to 1867 in government work; was Clerk of Courts for Somerset County, Maine, 1869-1876; Register of Probate for said County from 1877-1881; was admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the December Term, 1874 and after completing his term of service as Clerk of Courts began the practice of law in Skowhegan where he remained for several years. He died in Cliftondale, Massachusetts, April 11, 1906.

## WILLIAM FOLSOM

Son of William E. and Betsey (Dutton) Folsom, was born in Starks, April 8, 1822. He was educated in the public schools and Foxcroft Academy. He read law in the office of Mr. Currier in New Sharon and was admitted to the Bar in Franklin County and entered the practice of law in Industry. In 1851 he removed to Hartland, there continuing the practice of his profession till 1870 when he removed to Skowhegan where he remained till his death. He was Attorney for the State in Somerset County from 1867 to 1871. In 1876 he formed a partnership with Edward N. Merrill, under the firm name of Folsom & Merrill and this connection continued till 1883, when on account of failing health Mr. Folsom retired from active practice. Mr. Folsom was married on October 11, 1846 to Miss Ann G. Lincoln, who died leaving one daughter Anna, who married Edward N. Merrill. Mr. Folsom's second marriage was on September 28, 1852, to Miss Ann E. Barrell. He died March 16, 1895.

### FORREST GOODWIN

Was born in Skowhegan, Maine, June 14, 1862, the son of George E. and Hannah S. (Pollard) Goodwin; educated in the public schools of Skowhegan and was graduated at Colby College, 1887, receiving the degree of A.B.; attended Boston University Law School receiving therefrom the degree of LL.B., in 1890; admitted to the Bar in 1889; married Matie E. Smith of Cornville, June 3, 1893; was Parliamentary Clerk to Speaker Reed 1890-1891; postmaster of Skowhegan, 1892-1896; member of the Maine House of Representatives, 1888-1889; member of the State Senate, 1902 and again in 1904, when he was President of that body; was elected Representative to the 63rd Congress but died May 28, 1913, soon after taking his seat.

### SAMUEL W. GOULD

Was born in Porter, Maine, January 1, 1852, the son of Elias and Ruth (Clemons) Gould; was graduated from the University of Maine in 1877, receiving the degree of B.S.; commenced the practice of law in Skowhegan in January, 1880, where he still lives. Was postmaster of Skowhegan, 1896-1900 and acting postmaster following the death of Postmaster Manter, 1920-1921; Democratic Candidate for Governor of Maine, 1902; President of the Board of Trustees of University of Maine; Trustee of Bloomfield Academy and Coburn Library; Delegate to Democratic National Convention in 1900 and again in 1912 and represented the third District of Maine in the 62nd Congress, 1911-1913.

Married Nellie L. Winslow of Gorham, Maine, in December, 1879, who died February 28, 1921; married Grace Cain, August 1, 1922.

## GEORGE WINFIELD GOWER

Son of Truman Merrill and Caroline N. (Wilbur) Gower, was born in Mercer, March 6, 1861. Educated in the common and High schools of Illinois and the Gorham Normal School, in Gorham, Maine. Admitted to Franklin County Bar March 4, 1885; practiced law in Kingfield, Maine, about one year, then removed to Solon, Maine, where he continued his practice till the spring of 1892 when he came to Skowhegan and formed a co-partnership with E. N. Merrill, under the firm name of Merrill & Gower, which continued for four years; he was then in business with Clarence B. Hight under the name of Gower & Hight for two years, and since 1922 with Sherman N. Shumway under the firm name of Gower & Shumway. Was Attorney for the State in Somerset County from 1900-1904.

Married Miss Belle Whipple of Solon, October 14, 1885, who died April 6, 1895. He married Miss Grace Tolman of New Sharon, August, 1898.

### WILLIAM H. HAWES

Son of George W. and Emma (Holbrook) Hawes, was born in Skowhegan, August 5, 1878; was educated in the schools of Skowhegan and Colby College from which he was graduated in 1903. Read law in the office of Forrest Goodwin in Skowhegan, then attended Harvard Law School two years; was admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the March Term, 1909, since which time he has practiced his profession in Skowhegan. Was married to Eldena J. Smith of Skowhegan June 30, 1903. Has served his town on the School Board from 1910-1919. Is now (1921) Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue.

### CLARENCE B. HIGHT

Son of Charles F. and Susan (Groton) Hight, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, November 15, 1876. Educated at Somerset Academy, Athens, Maine; Farmington Normal School and the University of Maine Law School, graduating in the class of 1904 with the degree of LL.B., and later received the degree of LL.M.

Was admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the September Term, 1904 and immediately began practice in Dexter, Maine and after two years removed to Skowhegan and became a partner of Gower under the firm name of Gower & Hight. After two years began practice alone in Skowhegan.

He married Ethel L. Morrill of Cornville, Maine, September 5, 1905. They still reside in Skowhegan-

### DAVID KIDDER

Was born in Dresden, Maine, December 8, 1787. He was educated by private tutors; admitted to the Bar and commenced practice in Canaan, now Skowhegan, in 1811; shortly after he married Lucy Weston, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Emery) Weston of that town. In 1817 Mr. Kidder removed to Bloomfield and in 1821 to Norridgewock. He was Attorney for the State in Somerset County, 1811-1823; Representative to the Maine Legislature from Milburn in 1829; was Captain of the first Light Infantry north of Augusta; represented his district in the House of Representatives in the 18th and 19th Congresses. After his return from Congress in 1827, he settled in what is now known as Skowhegan, where he died October 25, 1860.

### LLEWELLYN KIDDER

Son of David and Lucy (Weston) Kidder, was born in Bloomfield, 1812. Educated in the schools of his native town; admitted to the Bar in Somerset County in 1835 and settled in Skowhegan the same year. Was field officer of the Cavalry. Married Mehitable M. Robinson of Skowhegan, November 26, 1840. Was Clerk of Courts of Somerset County, 1848-1853. For a time lived in Portland and was Register of Deeds for Cumberland County. He died August 29, 1881.

### HIRAM KNOWLTON

Was born in New Portland, Maine, August 17, 1823, son of William and Mary (Chapman) Knowlton; educated in the High Schools of West and North New Portland and the Farmington Academy; was County Treasurer of Somerset County, 1858-1859; admitted to the Bar in 1861; married Sabrina W. Chapman at Starks, Maine, March 11, 1846; practiced law in Mercer, Maine, 1861-1862; elected Clerk of Courts for Somerset County and served as such 1863-1868; practiced law in Skowhegan, 1868-1874, when he removed to Portland, Maine. He was a member of the Executive Council under Gov. Perham in 1871; Member of the House of Representatives, 1873-1874; member of the State Valuation Commission for Cumberland County 1880 and again in 1890; member of the Board of Trustees of Bates College and of Maine Central Institute. Died in Portland, April 15, 1915.

### WILLIAM J. KNOWLTON

Was born in Starks, Maine, June 9, 1851, the son of Hiram and Sabrina (Chapman) Knowlton; educated in the public and private schools; admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the March Term of the Supreme Judicial Court, 1872. June 12, 1878, married Vetta C. Tibbetts. Began practice in Skowhegan in 1872 and remained there two years, when he removed to Portland, Maine, where he now lives and continues in the practice of law at 57 Exchange Street. He was a member of the House of Representatives, 1895-1897.

### FRED FOSS LAWRENCE

Born in Fairfield, Maine, November 6, 1879, the son of Charles P. and Flora T. (Brown) Lawrence; educated in the schools of Skowhegan, graduating from the High School in the class of 1895; received the degree of A.B. from Colby College, 1900 and attended Boston University Law School. Married Frances Scott Stevens of Skowhegan, September 5, 1906. Admitted to the Bar August, 1904 and practiced in Skowhegan till 1919. Was Judge of the Western Somerset Municipal Court four years; Secretary to Governor William T. Haines, 1913-1914; Lecturer at the Law School of the University of Maine, 1918-1919; Deputy Attorney General of Maine, 1919-1921 and Bank Commissioner for Maine, 1921-1925. Removed to Portland in 1925 and became a member of the law firm of Cram & Lawrence.

### JAMES TUFTON LEAVITT

Son of Joseph Leavitt, was born in Lee, N. H., July 9, 1804. The family removed to Bangor, Maine, where James spent his boyhood days and there received his early education; graduated from Bowdoin College September 5, 1827; admitted to practice law in the Court of Common Pleas in Somerset County in 1832 and in the Supreme Judicial Court in Somerset County in 1834 and began practice in Skowhegan, then Canaan, continuing in practice there to the date of his death. He represented his district in the House of Representatives in 1848 and again in 1855; his County in the Senate in 1851 and 1852. Was Attorney for the State in Somerset County for several years.

Married Hannah B. Morse of Norridgewock. He died April 18, 1857.

### DANIEL LEWIS

Son of James B. and Mary J. (Lucas) Lewis, was born in St. Albans, January 13, 1851; educated in the schools of St. Albans, the Hartland Academy, Union Academy in Corinna; the Waterville Classical Institute and the Maine Central Institute. Taught school most of the time for seven years; read law in the office of Hon. Josiah Crosby in Dexter and attended the Albany Law School. In 1874 was a member of the House of Representatives from St. Albans, serving on the Legal Affairs Committee; was admitted to the Bar in Aroostook County, September 16, 1874; in 1879 was again a member of the House of Representatives from Sherman; practiced about 23 years at Sherman Mills and came to Skowhegan in 1898 where he practiced till February, 4, 1922, the date of his death. He was admitted to practice in the Circuit Courts of the United States, May 15, 1899; was Referee in Bankruptcy from 1900-1922. Married in Sherman September 3, 1876, to Miss Flora A. Jackman, daughter of Charles H. and Charlotte C. Jackman.

### JOHN LEWIS

Son of Daniel and Flora (Jackman) Lewis, was born in Sherman, Maine, March 16, 1889; educated in the schools of Skowhegan and Bowdoin College; read law in the office of his father and attended the Law School of the University of Maine; admitted to the Bar in Somerset County in September, 1915; has practiced since that time in Skowhegan in partnership with his father, till his father's death and since that alone.

Married Mildred B. Chute, daughter of Charles H. and Maria W. (Lord) Chute of Skowhegan, August 19, 1917.

### JUDAH MCCLELLAN

Was born in Woodstock, Conn., May 25, 1780, and was graduated from Brown University in 1799 and came to Bloomfield, now Skowhegan, in 1803; soon after he married Elizabeth White of Bloomfield; was representative to the Massachusetts legislature before Maine became a State; State's Attorney for the County of Somerset, 1824-1834; Trustee of Waterville College, (now Colby), 1821-1848. Under an Act of the Massachusetts Legislature of 1807 incorporating Canaan Academy he was named as one of the trustees and continued on that board till 1819 when the name was changed to Bloomfield Academy, of which, he was also trustee, and was treasurer of its funds from 1821 to 1849. Built the house on south side of Kennebec River formerly owned and occupied by Amos K. Butler, Esq., and there resided till his death on August 20, 1864.

### EDWARD FOLSOM MERRILL

Son of Edward N. and Anna (Folsom) Merrill, was born in Skowhegan, April 11, 1883; was educated in the public schools of his town and was graduated from Bowdoin College in the class of 1903 and from Harvard Law School in 1906; was admitted to the Bar in August, 1906, after which he formed a partnership with his father for the practice of law under the firm name of Merrill & Merrill. Later his brother William Folsom Merrill was admitted to this firm, which thus continued till the withdrawal of his father, about a year before his death, leaving the business largely to the two brothers. Mr. Merrill married Daisy Ina Day of Waterville, October 9, 1906. Attorney for the State for Somerset County, 1919-1920 and is President of the Skowhegan Water Company.

## EDWARD NEWTON MERRILL

Son of Eli and Mary Gilbert (Laughton) Merrill, was born in Harmony, Maine, April 11, 1849. He was graduated from Bowdoin College in 1874 receiving the degree of A.B. He married Miss Anna Folsom of Skowhegan, November 2, 1876; admitted to the Bar in 1876 and began the practice of law in Skowhegan, where he resided the remainder of his life. In 1876 he formed a co-partnership with William Folsom under the name of Folsom & Merrill which continued till 1883, when Mr. Folsom retired. Mr. Merrill soon formed a connection with Edward P. Coffin, under the firm name of Merrill & Coffin which lasted for several years, when in 1892 he formed a co-partnership with George W. Gower, under the firm name of Merrill & Gower which continued for four years. In 1906 his son Edward Folsom Merrill became a partner with him under the firm name of Merrill & Merrill and later in 1914, his other son, William Folsom Merrill became a member of the same firm. Mr. Merrill was a member of the Maine House of Representatives in 1899 and again in 1905 and in 1917 was a member of the Maine Senate. He died May 9, 1919.

### MAURICE P. MERRILL

Son of J. Palmer and Elizabeth (Powers) Merrill, was born in Skowhegan, April 28, 1887; educated in the Skowhegan schools; was graduated from Bowdoin College in 1908 and from the Harvard Law School, 1911; was admitted to the Bar at the September Term of the Supreme Judicial Court in Somerset County, 1911 and immediately began the practice of law in Skowhegan, where he still resides. He was married to Miss Ruth Baker Landers May 24, 1917. Appointed Judge of Western Somerset Municipal Court in June, 1924.

### WILLIAM FOLSOM MERRILL

Son of Edward N. and Anna (Folsom) Merrill, was born in Skowhegan, December 8, 1890; educated in the public schools and was graduated from Bowdoin College in class of 1911, immediately entering Harvard Law School from which he was graduated in 1914, with the degree of LL.B. He was admitted to the Bar August 18, 1914, when he became associated with his father and brother in the practice of law in Skowhegan under the name of Merrill & Merrill. After the death of his father the same firm name has been continued. He married Jeanette F. Landers October 11, 1915.

### CHESTER H. MILLS

Son of F. Marion and Mary (Fairbanks) Mills, was born in Skowhegan, January 16, 1877. Educated in the Skowhegan schools, graduating from the High School in 1896. Read law in the office of Walton & Walton in Skowhegan and attended the Law School of the University of Maine, graduating in 1900 with the degree of LL.B. Admitted to the Bar in 1900. Began the practice of law in Skowhegan in partnership with Harold J. Phillips and continued the same for nearly three years after which he removed to Jackman, Maine, where he has since resided practicing his profession. He has held the office of Superintendent of Schools of Jackman and Moose River and has been auditor of Jackman for several years.

He married Ethelyn Mary Smith of Bangor, Maine, May 17, 1917.

### WYMAN B. S. MOOR

Born in Waterville, Maine, November 11, 1811, the son of Daniel and Rebecca (Spring) Moor; was educated in the public schools of his native town, China Academy and Waterville College from which institution he was graduated in 1831; in 1834 he attended the Dane Law School in Cambridge, Mass.; was admitted to the Bar in Somerset County in November, 1834; came to Skowhegan to practice law remaining only about six months; returned to Waterville where he remained from 1835-1842, representing his town in the Legislature during some part of that time; from 1844-1848 was Attorney General for the State. In 1848 was appointed by the Governor to fill the vacancy in the United States Senate, caused by the death of Senator John Fairfield. In 1859 he received the appointment from President Buchanan of Consul General to the British Provinces. In 1868 he moved to Lynchburg, Va., where he died, March 10, 1869.

### BENJAMIN W. NORRIS

Son of James and Mary (White) Norris, was born in Monmouth, January 22, 1819. Prepared for college at Monmouth Academy; was graduated from Waterville (now Colby) College, 1843; taught one term in Kent's Hill Seminary, then went into business in Skowhegan; in 1849 he went to California and remained one year; married Miss Abby S. Miller of Farmington, January 21, 1851; studied law with David Kidder of Skowhegan; admitted to the bar in Somerset County in January, 1852 and at that time formed a partnership with David Kidder for the practice of law. From 1852 to 1864 he was interested in the oilcloth manufacturing business in Skowhegan; 1860-1862 was land agent for the State of Maine; 1865 went to Montgomery, Alabama, and served in the Freedman's Bureau under Gen. O. O. Howard, with commission as major. He served as representative from Alabama to the fortieth Congress, 1867-1869. Died at Montgomery, January 26, 1873.

### MILFORD P. NORTON

Son of Peter and Asenath Norton, was born in Readfield, Maine, January 23, 1794, and came to what is now Skowhegan in 1819; removed to Canaan proper in a year or two, subsequently to Waterville and then to Bangor, returning to Canaan in about 1836; was State Land Agent in 1830; member of the Maine House of Representatives in 1830 and again in 1838; State Senator in 1839. His wife Sarahann died in Canaan, March 30, 1831. In about 1840 he removed to Texas and became Judge of the Third Judicial District, Superior Court of that state. Died in San Antonio, Texas, June 8, 1860.

### HAROLD J. PHILLIPS

Son of John F. and Nellie C. (Marston) Phillips, was born April 12, 1877, in Skowhegan. Educated in the Skowhegan High School and Bloomfield Academy from which he was graduated in 1896; graduated from the University of Maine Law School in 1900; admitted to the Bar of Maine in 1899; Circuit Court of the United States April 23, 1902; the Massachusetts Bar, December 29, 1905; practiced in Boston in 1906, returning to Maine in 1907, since which time he has practiced in this town. He married Blanche Seavey, April 25, 1910. Mr. Phillips was appointed Referee in Bankruptcy for Somerset County in February, 1922, which office he resigned after about six months and resumed his regular practice.

### STANLEY PLUMMER

Born in Sangerville, Maine, February 25, 1846, the son of Daniel and Miranda M. Plummer; received the degree of A.B. from Bowdoin College in 1867 and LL.B. from Albany Law School, 1868; admitted to the Bar in 1869. Married to Evelyn Barker of Stetson, Maine, in 1871. Married to Elisabeth Burbank of Rockford, Ill., in 1903. Was a member of the Maine House of Representatives in 1869 and 1895; of the Maine Senate in 1899 and 1903; began practice at Bangor in 1872; City Solicitor of Bangor, 1873; Clerk in U. S. Department of Internal Revenue, 1874-1876; U. S. Revenue Agent, 1877-1889; postmaster of U. S. Senate, 1890-1894. Practiced law in Skowhegan, 1888 and 1889; removed to Dexter, Maine, in 1893 which was his home till he died February 12, 1919.

### DANIEL C. ROBINSON

Son of Samuel and Mary Jane (Fox) Robinson, was born in Skowhegan, April 20, 1848; educated at Kent's Hill and Harvard Law School class of 1872; admitted to the Bar at the March Term in Somerset County, 1872; practiced in Skowhegan from June, 1872 to 1874; in Augusta from June, 1874 to October, 1883; in Boston from October, 1883 to November, 1894; in November, 1894 he became President of the Acme Milling Company of Indianapolis, Ind., which position he occupied till 1907. November 16, 1874, he married Mary E. Lombard of Augusta. Mr. Robinson died April 15, 1913.

### JOHN RUGGLES

Born in Westboro, Mass., about 1790; was graduated from Brown University in the class of 1813; studied law with Gov. Levi Lincoln at Worcester, Mass., also, before graduating, with Estes Howe of Westboro. Commenced practice in Skowhegan in 1815; went to Thomaston, Maine, in 1818; was speaker of the Maine House of Representatives from 1825 to 1829 and again in 1831 and 1832; Judge of the District Court; U. S. Senator from 1834 to 1840. Married Margaret George of Watertown. Mr. Ruggles died in Thomaston, June 20, 1874.

### WILLIAM T. SEEKINS

Son of Theodore B. and Amanda (Farrar) Seekins, was born in Pittsfield, March 4, 1871. He was educated in the public schools of Dexter, of Dover and the Maine Central Institute.

Admitted to the Bar in Somerset County in 1898; practiced his profession in Pittsfield till December, 1900, when he was appointed, by Gov. Powers, to the office of Clerk of Courts of Somerset County to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Newell W. Brainerd. He was elected to that office in 1902 and re-elected each four years since. He married Miss Gertrude Parker of St. Albans, January 6, 1890.

### SHERMAN N. SHUMWAY

Son of Amos W. and Jennie M. (Smith) Shumway, was born in Dover, Mass., December 18, 1894. When he was a year old his family moved to Los Angeles, Calif., but in September, 1911, he came to make his home in Skowhegan. He was graduated from the Skowhegan High School in 1913 and from Bowdoin College in 1917. Shumway was in every engagement in which the 26th Division had a part during the World War, and was neither sick nor wounded while in France. He enlisted as a private in Co. E, 2nd Me. Inf., in June, 1917, received his commission as 2nd Lieutenant, August 2, 1917, and was assigned to Co. E, 103rd Inf. On January 26, 1918, was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and assigned to H Company 103rd Inf. On January 26, 1918, was put in command of H Company. June 9, 1918, was promoted to Captain, still remaining in command of H. Company.

On July 26, 1918, he was permanently put in command of the 2nd Battalion and remained in command till after the armistice was signed. He was promoted to the rank of Major October 22, 1918, but as before mentioned remained with the 2nd Battalion. February 22 he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and assigned to the 103rd Inf., which position he held when discharged April 28, 1919.

He was graduated from the Harvard Law School in 1922 and began the practice of law in this town

in October of that year, associated with George W. Gower. He has served the town as a member of its School Board. On June 30, 1925, he was married to Agnes B. Mosher of Los Angeles, California. In June, 1927, Mr. Shumway was elected a member of the Board of Overseers of Bowdoin College.

### PHILO STEWARD

Was born in Skowhegan, December 15, 1856, the son of Naham C. and Sarah F. (Pitts) Steward; was educated in the schools of Skowhegan, graduating from the High School in 1877 and from Colby College in 1881, receiving the degree of A.B.; was admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the March Term, 1884 and soon went west and there remained till 1894, when he returned to Skowhegan; married Miss Carrie Kidwell of Washington, D. C., in 1896.

Was appointed Register of Probate May 13, 1913; was elected his own successor in 1914, again in 1918-1922 and 1926.

### GEORGE F. TALBOT

Born January 16, 1819, in East Machias, Maine, the son of John Coffin and Mary (Foster) Talbot. Prepared for college at Washington Academy; was graduated from Bowdoin College in the class of 1837. From 1840 to 1844 he practiced law in Skowhegan and in Columbia Falls, Maine; East Machias from 1844 to 1854; Machias, 1854 to 1864; Portland 1864 to 1907; Attorney for the State in Washington County from 1859 to 1860; U. S. District Attorney, 1861 to 1870; Commissioner to revise the Maine Constitution in 1875 and Solicitor of the Treasury, 1876 to 1877.

He was one of the founders of the Republican Party and an influential delegate in the convention that nominated Lincoln in 1860. Was a member of the Maine Historical Society.

He married first Elizabeth Leavitt Neil, daughter of John G. and Elizabeth Neil of Skowhegan, who died at East Machias, June 28, 1845; his second marriage was to Elizabeth Bayliss, daughter of Theodore and Elizabeth (Lincoln) Bayliss, who died September 30, 1907.

Mr. Talbot died August 17, 1907.

### STILLMAN B. TUTTLE

Son of James and Mary (Hartford) Tuttle, was born in Smithfield, Maine, in February, 1863. Educated in the schools of his native town and the Farmington Normal School; read law in the office of Walton & Walton in Skowhegan and was admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the March Term, 1885, and immediately opened an office in Skowhegan, where he remained till 1898.

### LYMAN L. WALTON

Son of Sylvanus B. and Martha (Chapman) Walton, was born in Mercer, Maine, June 2, 1849. Educated in the common schools of his native town and the Eaton Family and Day School in Norridgewock, Maine. Admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the December Term, 1872 and was married to Miss Martha A. Smith, November 28, 1874. Began the practice of law in Skowhegan in 1873 and in 1874 became a member of the firm of Walton & Walton, which partnership continued for forty-five years; was a member of the School Committee in Mercer and in Skowhegan; Attorney for the State in Somerset County, 1877-1880 inclusive and Representative to the Legislature in 1897. In October, 1923 Mr. Walton removed to Foxboro, Mass., where he still practices his profession.

### SYLVESTER J. WALTON

Born April 23, 1837, in Mercer, Maine, the son of Joshua and Mary (Rollins) Walton; was educated in the district schools of his native town; at Bloomfield Academy in Skowhegan and the Anson Academy. He taught eighteen terms of district school and four terms of High school. Admitted to the Bar in Somerset County in 1862 and in New York State in 1863; enlisted in the army in 1863; in 1864 he began the practice of law in New Portland, Maine; practiced there ten years then moved to Skowhegan. In 1867 he married Alma B. Clark of New Portland. In 1870 he was elected Attorney for the State in Somerset County and held that office till January 1, 1877; in 1885 was elected to the Maine House of Representatives and served till 1888; elected to the Maine Senate in 1889 serving two terms; in 1892 was a delegate to the National Republican Convention at Minneapolis; in 1903 and 1904 served as a member of the Council of Gov. John F. Hill; was President of the Skowhegan Savings Bank for a number of years.

Mr. Walton died in Skowhegan, May 12, 1920.

### LUTHER H. WEBB

Son of Hanson and Emily (Patterson) Webb, was born in St. Albans, Maine, May 1, 1836. He was educated at Hartland Academy. Married Emily Page of Hartland, October 9, 1861.

Was a member of the Maine House of Representatives in 1868 and the Maine Senate in 1869 and again in 1870. He lived in Hartland till 1875 where he served his town as selectman and member of the School Board. In 1875 he removed to Skowhegan. Admitted to the Bar in Somerset County at the March Term, 1881; Clerk of Courts for the County of Somerset, 1876-1890. On account of failing health he resigned and removed to Pasadena, California, where he died August 21, 1898.

### MARSHALL G. WRIGHT

Son of James and Sarah Wright, was born in Canaan, Maine, July 30, 1853. He was educated in the Canaan and Skowhegan schools; studied law and was admitted to the Somerset County Bar at the September Term, 1879. He practiced for a few years in Skowhegan in connection with his father.

### JAMES WRIGHT

Was born in Lewiston, Maine, August 21, 1815, son of Timothy and Susan (Rowe) Wright. Reared on a farm and educated in the public schools of Lewiston and Lewiston Academy, after which he engaged in teaching and continued in that vocation in Maine and Delaware several years. He was married June 11, 1848, to Sarah \_\_\_\_\_. In 1857 he was admitted to the Somerset County Bar and began practice in Canaan removing to Skowhegan in 1869 where he continued to practice his profession until 1893.

Mr. Wright died March 31, 1897, and his wife Sarah, died March 9, 1920.

### HENRY A. WYMAN

Born in New Sharon, Maine, September 4, 1820. Educated in the schools of that town and at Bowdoin College from which he received degrees of A.B. and A.M. in 1844. For about two years he was principal of an academy in Dresden, Kentucky. He came to Skowhegan about 1847, and was admitted to the Bar and began to practice in Skowhegan as a partner of Stephen and Alonzo Coburn—afterwards Coburn & Wyman. He remained a partner of Coburn & Wyman until his death December 6, 1867, at the age of 47.

He married Fannie F. Russell, daughter of Dr. Leonard W. Russell, of New Sharon, May 22, 1849. They lived on Pleasant Street, Skowhegan, until he built the house on Elm Street where the family lived until 1872.

Mr. Wyman was a trustee of Bloomfield Academy. He was a delegate to the National Convention, held at Charleston, South Carolina, and Baltimore.













